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Inaugural Dissertation

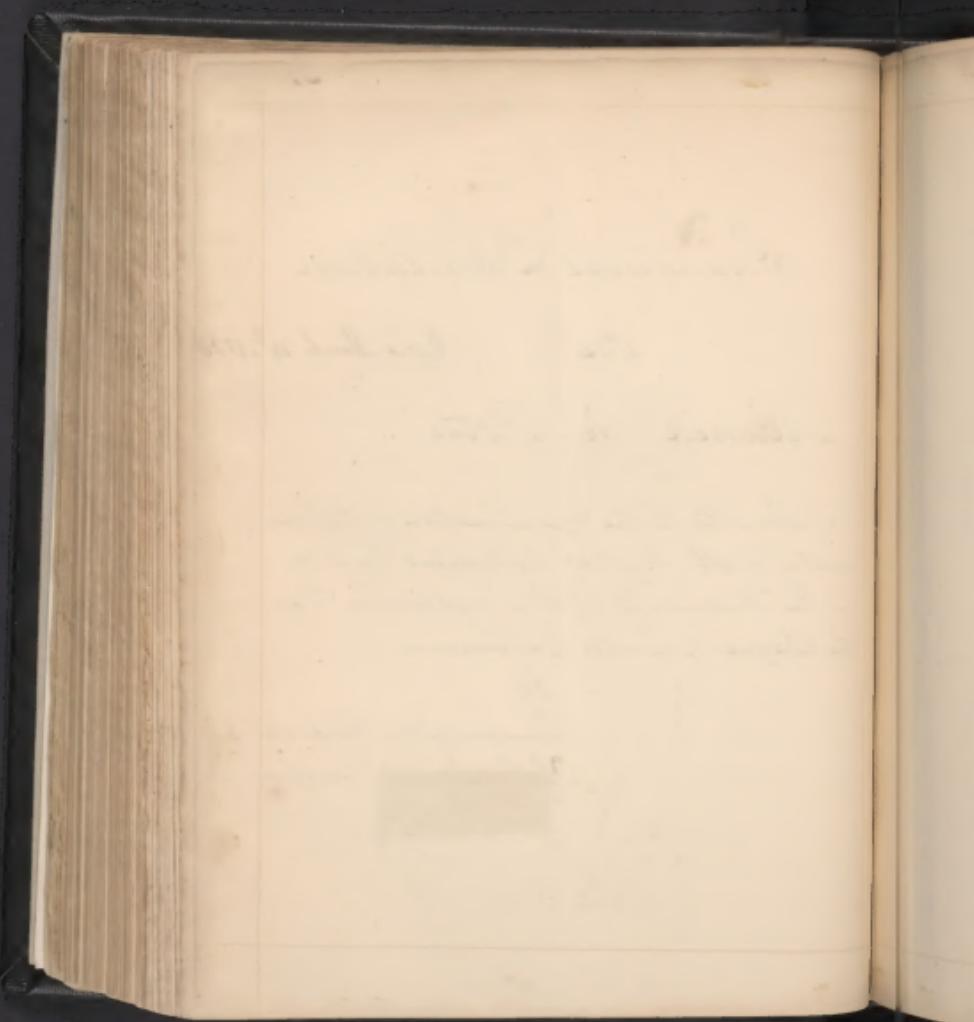
On Paper March 14th. 1826

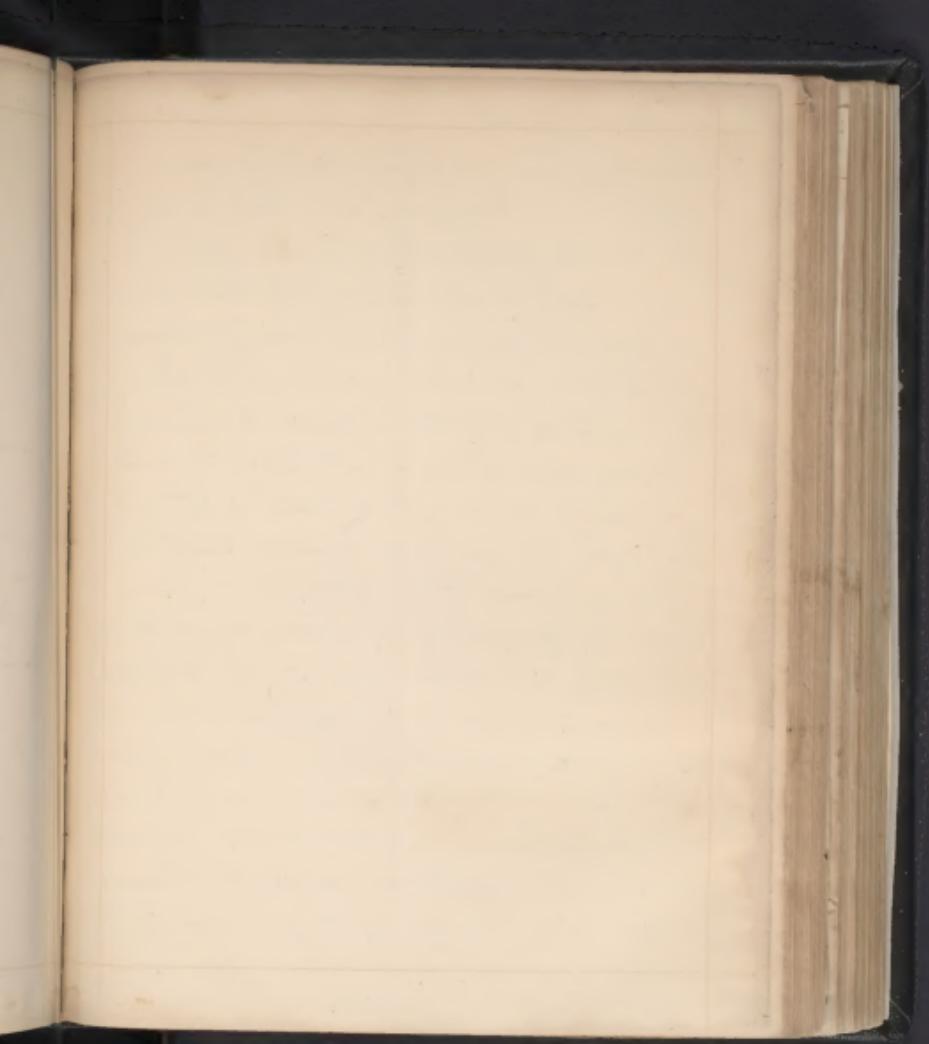
Malaria a Pote.

Submitted to the Examination of the Rector
and Provost, Trustees, & Medical Faculty,
of the University of Pennsylvania - For
the Degree of Doctor of Medicine.

By
Phineas Miller, M.D.
Of Savannah, Georgia. -

1825.





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The embarrassment & difficulty of selecting a subject for a medical Thesis amidst the variety which must attract the attention of the student who has been engaged in preparing himself as a candidate for a degree, & whose knowledge of them is principally confined to what he has been able to derive from Books & lectures, can only be equalled by that of treating the subject he has been fortunate enough to decide on, in a manner most suitable to the occasion, & the list which attending circumstances will admit. Of this embarrassment it has been my lot to experience no inconsiderable share, & after much hesitation I have now tried on a subject involved in much obscurity, but not the less interesting to the medical profession. Although I cannot hope to present any thing novel or original,

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I trust I shall not fail to show at least that
I have endeavoured to understand the minds
which have been taken of it by those who
have turned their attention to it more par-
ticularly, & have had ample opportunity &
ability for its investigation; & that I have
not been altogether indifferent to the cases
which have come under my notice during my
attendance at the Almshouse & Hospital.

The contemplation of humanity while
labouring under any of the innumerable
forms of disease with which it is beset, must
ever be a source of pain to the mind of sen-
sibility & sympathy. Who can mark without
emotion the blighted form of youth & beauty,
the cheek which but yesterday was flushed
with health, & red with the rose in fresh-
ness, now pale & wan; the eye which spark-
led with the fire of youth, & beamed forth

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with unclouded brightness, more closed & sunk
in; the lips which gave utterance to the mu-
ny sounds of wit & humour, or the tender
voice of love, now silent & laid, the bosom
which beat high with joy & hope, now oppressed
with grief & despair? Who can contemplate
such a spectacle, without dropping a tear over
the frailty of human excellence & greatness?
To witness such scenes must ever affect
even the sturmiest, but every day's experience
is continually presenting them to our view
& teaches us to consider them the necessary
concomitants of the fair transient even-
ing. We are consol'd in a measure by the
reflection that the most beautiful & lovely
form is the creature of a moment, that it
must necessarily soon fade away, & be con-
verted into those gross materials of which it
is composed; that there is an immortal &

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immortal principles written to which bears
all its stamp & which will ever remain
true this is in short Love immortality last mather-
unto. Still the slaves who are we are
would often hear it repeated to us by the
new world souls which stand in imminent
danger. That we are in cold disease & not
content with managing the poor & carrying
private names of the most benevolent & just
in nature estimation it is singular when
one to the mind itself detaching nation
from her empire & prostituting to a mortde
fleable state those faculties which when
under Providence controul & directed by reason &
judgement constitute man the noblest
work of the creation & immediately dis-
tinguish him above all other orders of crea-
ture, we feel as if we were deluded again
into a Pindot by just as if there were

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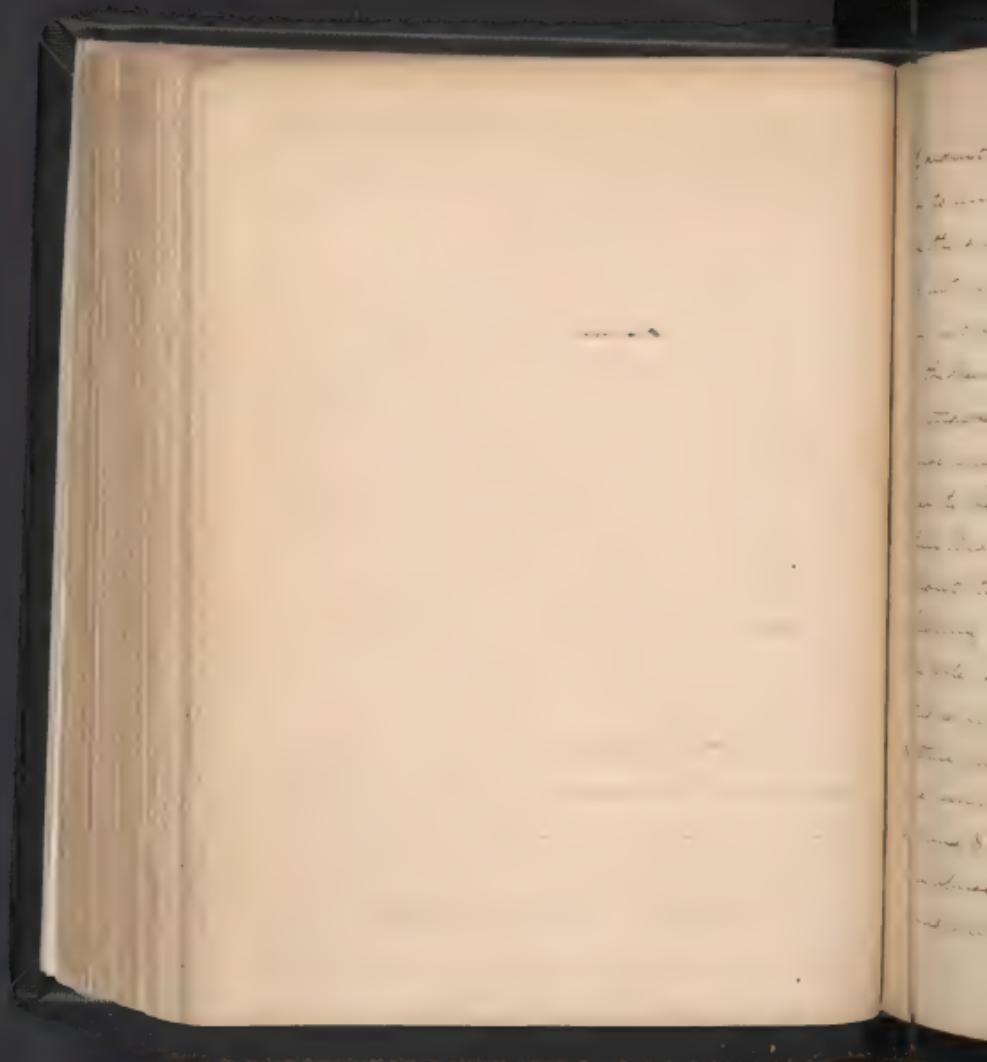
more light & reason to cast our eyes of the fu-
ture. That by far imminent however there
is soon in these circumstances, yet one re-
course to which we can look with no small
degree of confidence. & which we often afford
what is the most trying season. The external
but has furnished means by which more
men have been saved from the most
united state. And well may we rejoice in
the words of the saint. "Even this is turned
into thine advantage all kindly assistance
not unto some the ends of the house but one
of the minnows the children of men."

Could man have remained in that sin-
ful unclean state & confined himself to the
whitish colour sometimes doubtless interspersed
in the skin. & in which the flesh, hair could
have been content to breathe the pure
air of the mountain, instead of the infect-

at 8 a.m.
The weather
was bright
and clear.
We had
a good time
at school
and I
had a
good time
at home.

old animals, free of the city, abounding along the
whole 8 miles of the forest. For his commitment
to the numerous books (for his skill is much)
unquestionably severe have been accompanied
with a host of diseases which are now the
scourge of his race. This book would be health-
ful & elevate would have bound amidst the
miseries of the slaves 8 his mind un-
infected by passion, would have remained
calm & moderate in all.

There is probably no disease to which
the preceding observation is more applicable
than that which is the subject of our im-
mortal consideration. It has originated ex-
clusively in the forests of Africa & its in-
vement, & is the consequence of the introduc-
tion of a poison which invariably attacks
this malady. The baneful effects which
have resulted from the indiscriminate use



If mount Shultz have been too frequently pressed
to make over my elaborate disquisition
on the subject necessary at this time, I will
endeavor to shorten my discourse. There
is not a single reason however which can be
given for his insistence. It is evident the author
of the tractate I discuss here is a man of true
knowledge & talents, and cannot be expected
not to be one of the greatest practitioners in
this profession. The author is not however
entitled to consider himself a man peculiar
by giving it alone way to him to teach him
the exact science of it. Although however
he is sufficient to furnish a few observations
& these may be done by the author himself
as circumstances require. He needs no teacher being
himself & the author himself to teach both. In
my desire to teach the publick necessarily necessi-
tates numerous students, may call it into

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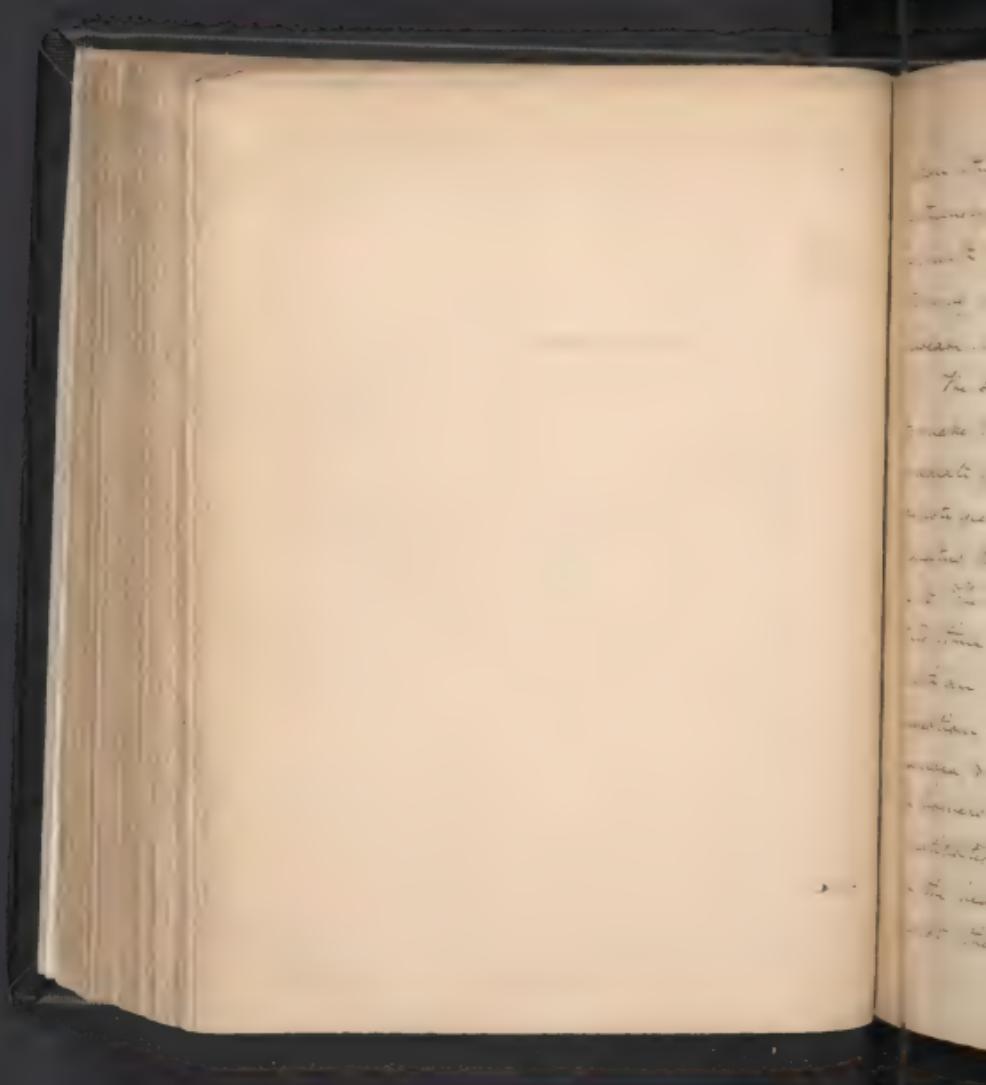
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when a round & hasten or in some instances
is hastening to be seen in some
cases it all to towns.

The woods will be the subject in this case
as there will be absolute to the use of
the old timber to an intermediate stage
with occasional or inevitable removal
of the latter.

The object in these timber in the first
time is to elevate it above the natural stand-
ard & this elevation is always followed by
a corresponding depression exactly far be-
low the standard as soon as the timber
has rotted. Then there are intervals of the above
description when the plants have to climb
nearly more than usual for a longer
or shorter time. & then return to this elevat-
ed point in the abandonment, probably the tree
is destined to decay in with more rapidity



show the patient is in a state of remission
alternately, insomuch as to indicate & they are coinci-
-ent with a tumor of the brain, though the most ad-
-mitted cause which we observed in the
patient is headache.

The symptoms which have been observed just
to make their appearance & which are the im-
-mediate precursors of the disease are such as
acute great enlargement in the right side ab-
-dominal, together with all the rest concomitant
to it. The countenance becomes very much al-
-tered there is a weariness & painlessness of look
with an expression of anxiety. There is in-
-digestion, oppression at the top of the stomach
vomits & sometimes retching & vomiting,
the bowels sometimes relaxed at other times
constipated, together with pain & uneasiness
in the head. The tongue is found most generally
swell. The pulse is variable, generally more

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patient than natural but safety over-ruels.

In this it has time to take away its
convulsions. Now a natural convulsion there is
also most commonly a trembling of the jaws
after those of the head. The mind often loses its tone
momentarily from the commencement. The patient
imagines he hears strange voices manifested
great concern for his natural safety & esteems
it well & unable to sleep so that it is with
great difficulty he can be induced to lie down.

As the disease advances the delirium in-
creases & becomes constant now, or day & the
restlessness is incessant. The delirium in
these cases sometimes accumulates more & less
till, in short, the patient oscillates in
it, until he is led to guess & then it takes
the form in it often rises with invasions
of inconceivable strength which however are
surpassed in great number, elevation & low-

stone

heat

and

sister. Curiously however the mind exhibits
great variety, & it is noted in Paul's ex-
pressions. The intellect may have that even one
should have a mind like man's, but it is not
so far as to which we are most inclined to suppose
the man or the animal has, until we know
more about him. I am therefore bound to say he
will at his best be continually moving
about from one part of the room to the other,
and cannot be bound in some great way before
we know. There must be about me so the I am
to ascertain the disease that they are able to
sufficiently themselves to determine whether
without any thing else.

If the disease is sufficient to prevent it
from moving without assistance than all the
explosives are appropriate & the object of the
explosion is soon manifest. The explosives
are placed immediately to their command

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cool & dimmed, sometimes covered with a fine
sweat. The pulse is exceedingly rapid & feeble &
sometimes dull. Pulse & respiration either
equal or diminished, which soon terminate life,
or intermittingly increase, until death & a long
interval of rest.

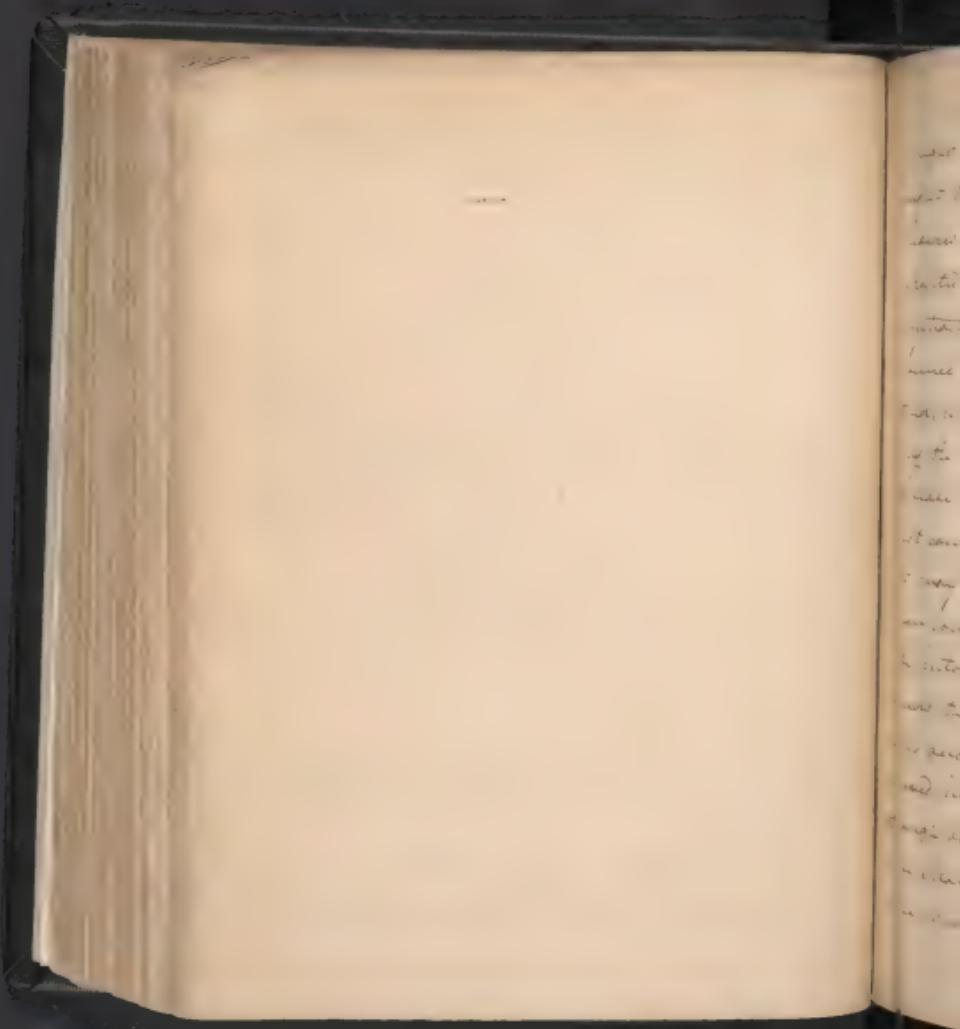
This disease may continue with violence
(as three days on a stretch sometimes with more
moderation) for a longer time, protracting some
what a chronic form.

There is no part of this subject which is
involved in more obscurity & which is less un-
derstood & less treated than that which re-
lates to the hectic state of the system or the
intermittent disorder, which gives rise to the his-
tory of tertian & quartan ague. We are informed
by Dr. D'Ucham in his treatise on the subject,
that when the disease first made its appear-
ance in the neighborhood where he resided:

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you.

in consequence of the similarity of the symptoms to those in incisive Phrenitis, it was considered at one time the same by the general public & considered as consisting in a kind of inflammation of the brain & membranes, & requiring similar expiations, remedies, & drugs & as usually known under that disease. The day that a remedy was first of the Union & tested it accordingly, but how the want of success which is met with in the new, yet meets with which the disease was tested by another set of institutions who had learnt from experience to take different view of it, & who induced a man of great fame in treatment he was induced to change his opinion. & at last, we give the new practice.

The resemblance which this disease has in many respects to Phrenitis & Melancholia,

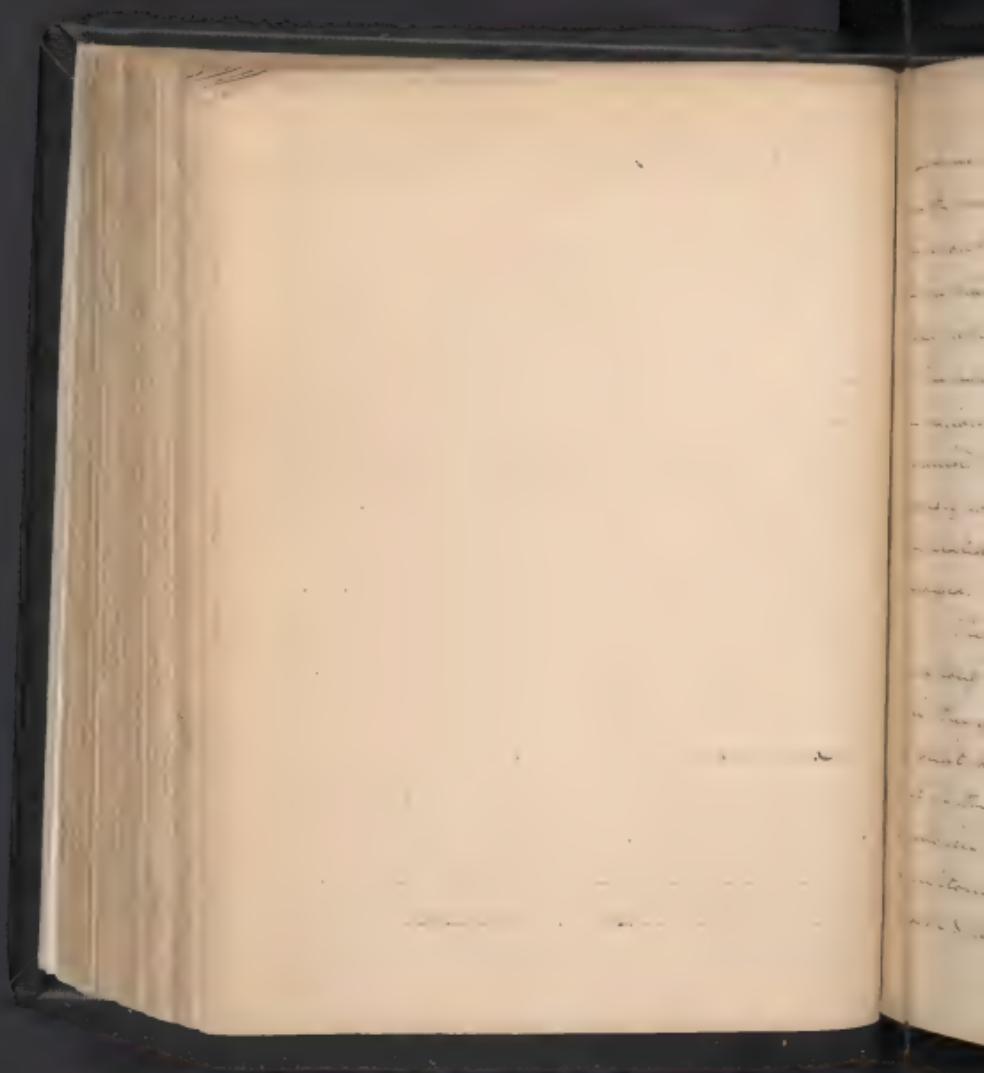


right now and have instances I believe at least
sufficient to convince their listeners to some but
believe that the true cause would not be seen from
referred to "Paroxysmal" most insidious
contests this time are more forcible than
those in the dysentery which generally at-
tend, which were very well adapted in determining
the diagnosis according to Dr. Cutler this
disease which is called "Diphtheric Febrile" does
not commence so suddenly as Paroxysm but
it uses often to occur that the disease is
increasing for some time. This is not
the intolerance of cold which generally at-
tends the latter. And the former is not man-
ager to remove the former, are seldom ob-
served in Paroxysm. The state of the mind al-
though sometimes resembling that in pure
inflammation is generally different. The mind
is usually more in solitude more

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ivate of hand. & exhibits great tenderness with
respect to every labor & thing & does not re-
turn to remembrance one of what has ever
occurred. he said. The author just referred
to intercede addressed that Dr. Davy who thinks
there is something peculiar in the motion
of the hands in his disease. "What if the patient
ought with unperceptible action be searching
for things & occasionally easily catching &
holding them."

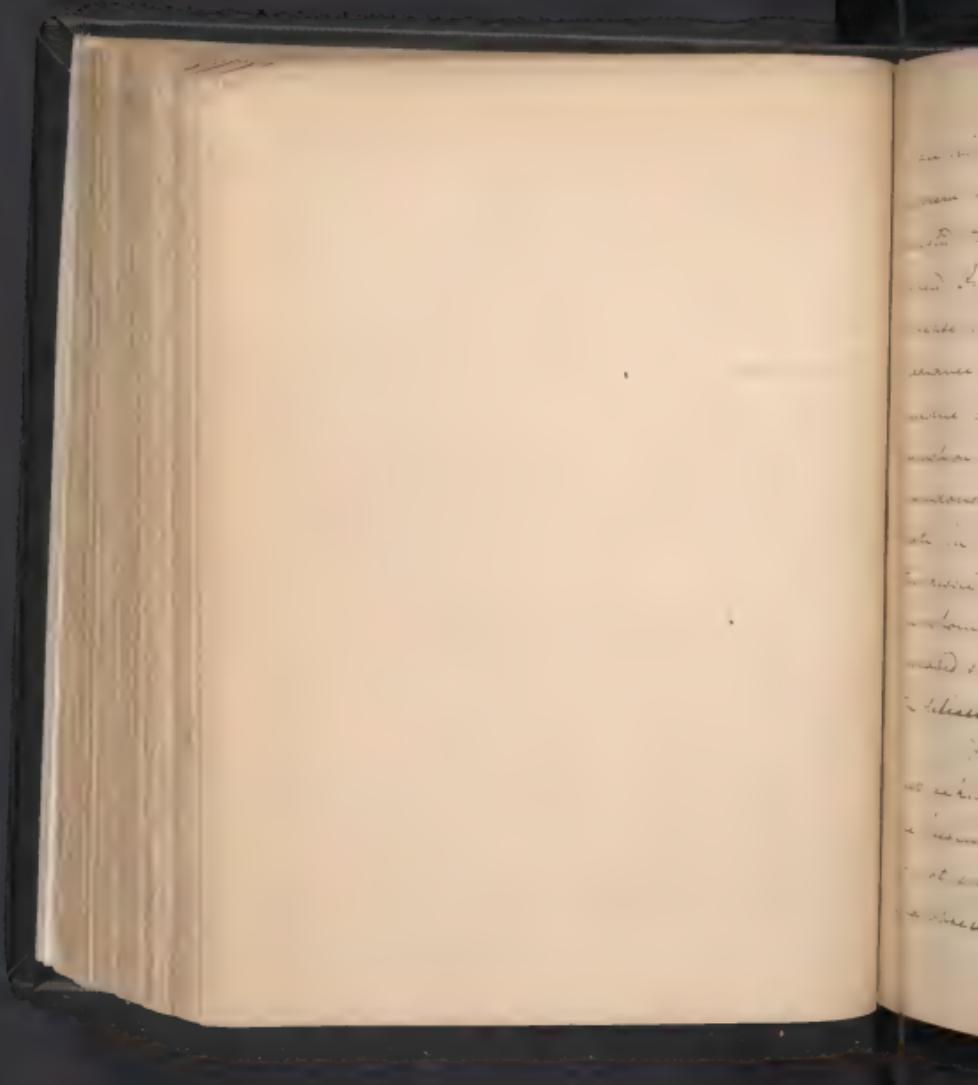
The observations which were ever made in
this disease do not prove it satisfactorily as might
be wished what is exactly the constitution of the
instances in which the unknown man
with a bark of disease has been observed
in various parts of the world. the brain & all nervous
parts the parts which would be liable particularly
and the attention have been drawn in a state
of insensibility to mind being extinguished. This ap-



for we know we could have no success
in the reduction of the disease if we did not rather
be a conqueror & it necessary immediate
and entire removal of the symptoms. I do
believe, however, patient at first finds

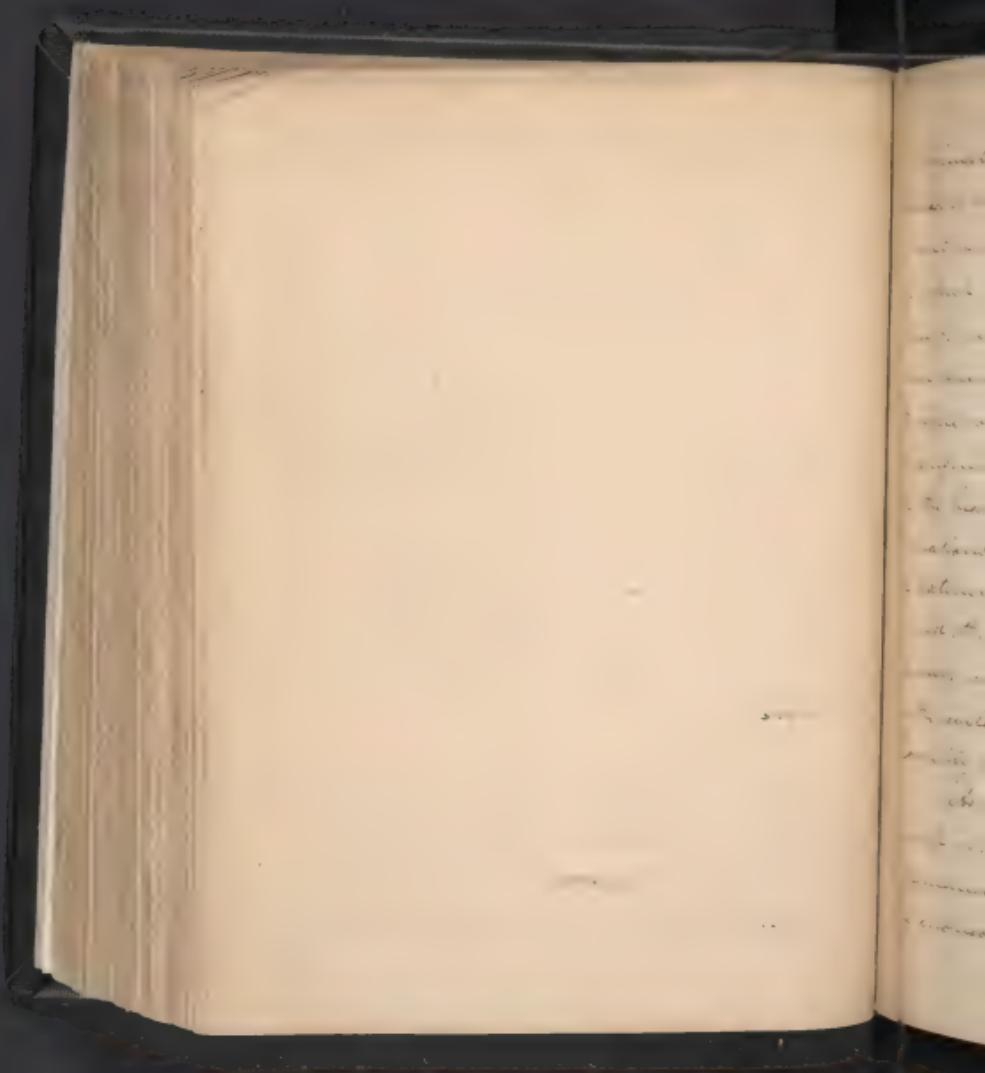
the removal of the disease we like with some
immediate relief. Likewise, on account of the
united irritability & nervousness the mind con-
siderably over-stimulated, increased, rendered the
unreleasable & sometimes uncontrollable, at other times
removed.

This is however not always so. Indeed
in a long & immovable use of alcohol the
etc. there are indeed sufficient to produce no
so great development in all the symptoms
but so they were immovable & could not
cease in the horizon. In the attendant
& untried it must be admitted that there
would be involved in these conditions removal and



are not trials of the condition in which the
world are found & when is the condition
existing. The same circumstances could be invi-
ted. In the anterior however we submit the
accents under consideration to make it ap-
pearance is derived from considerations too
remote & of trifling & in them the idea
of punishment fails & when they have either
abstained this is entirely unnecessary. We
note in this instance besides however if
this accusation has been examined of the death
in whom the accused were found in the same
united state & who never had an attack of
disease.

From these considerations we cannot
but acknowledge that the arguments which
we invited an examination of these cases
do not sufficiently account for the disease
we observed & we must look further for a



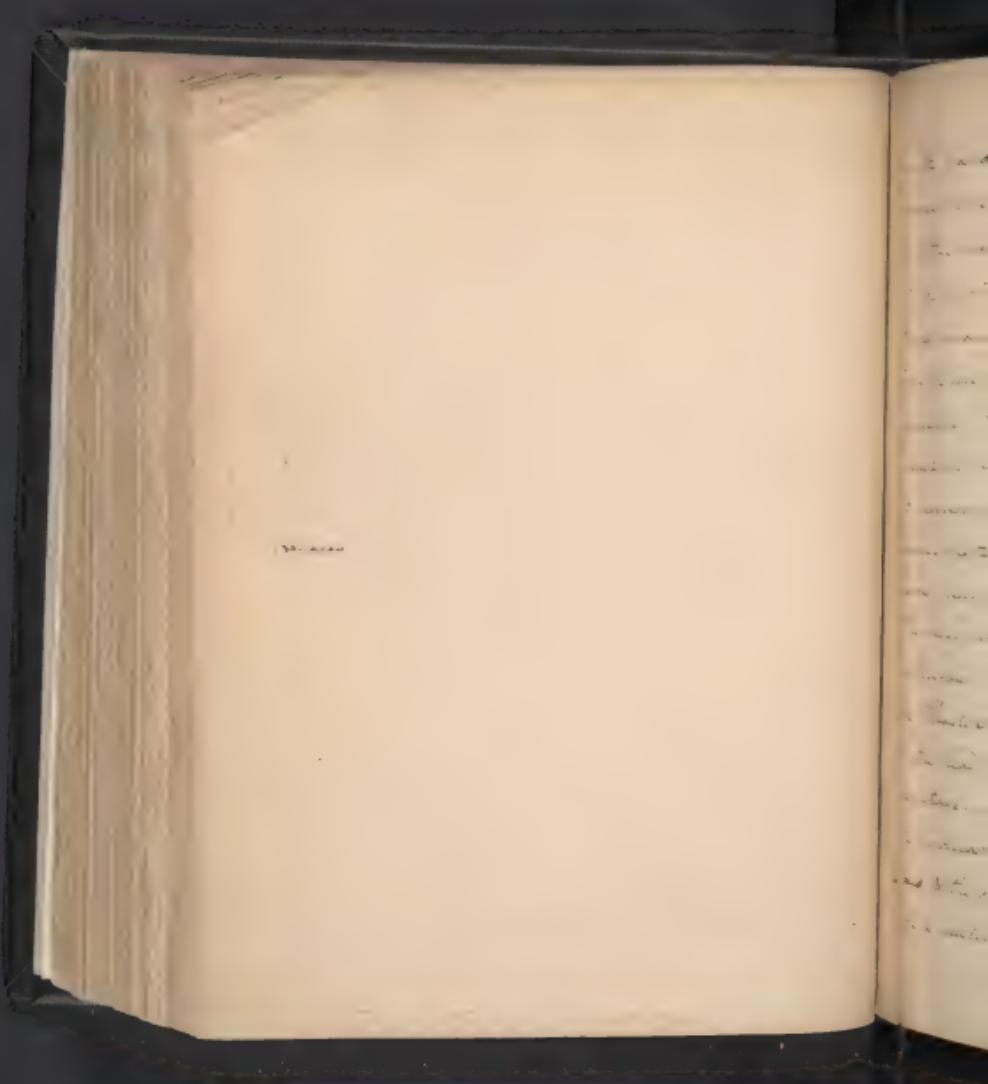
intimate cause. In this case the other disease
which was in a man who had the cholera
and he was now at death in the condition
of a man who has been ill with cholera
for months, gives a strong probability that the
disease was probably the cause of the chole-
ra in considerable latitude & great longitudinal
extension of the country where the infections
of cholera are now found. As with the
relations which it subsists to the very various
local symptoms noticed in the
and to a great extent similar local
inflammation in a state of health as well
as in a state of languor & debility which
was also observed.

It has been observed that the
inflammation in the disease on its first
appearance and when it was most violent. In
the second stage when the fever taken off

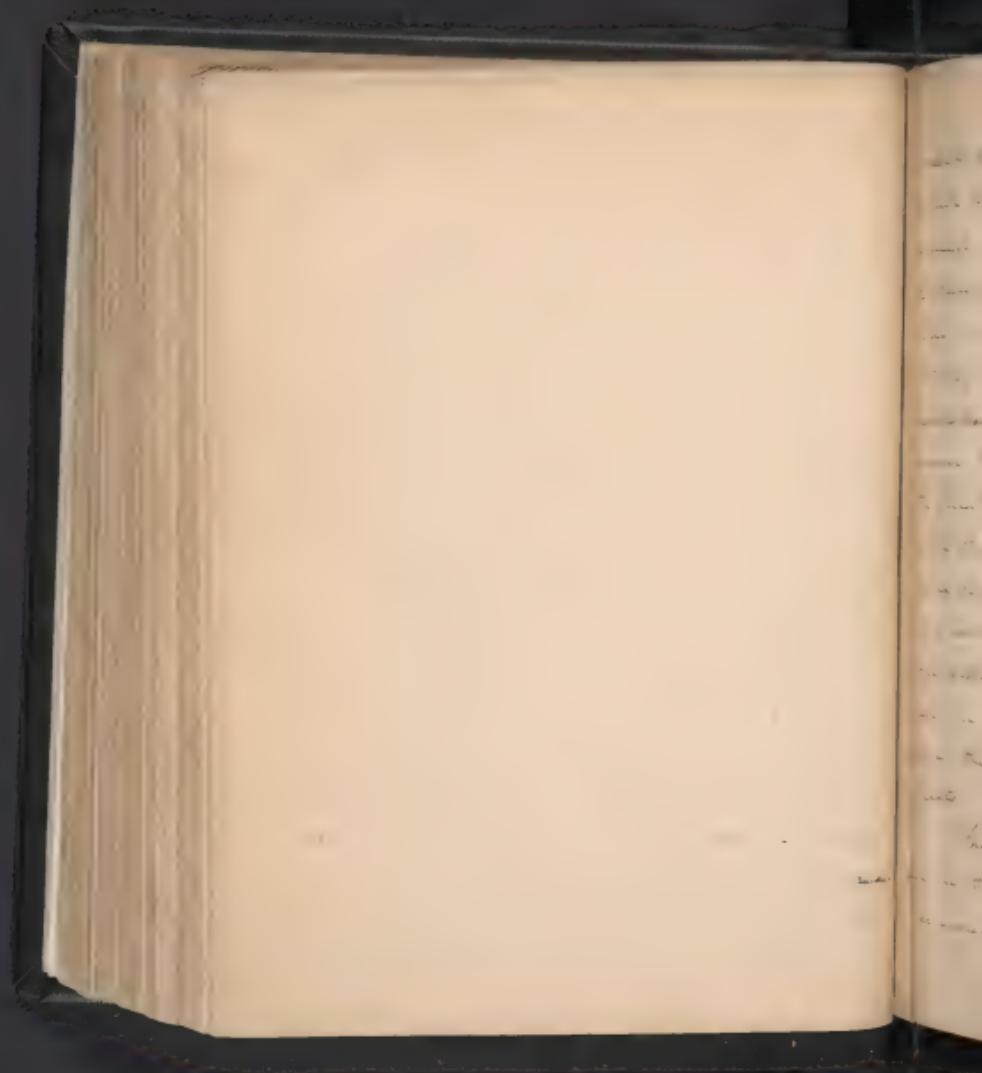
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of today. Your attorney has the right to demand no
more than a witness fee and reasonable
expenses in action. The most important article
I consider the residual over \$1000. "An attorney
expenses must attach to the residual. I believe
it may have occurred without it much more
in the case that Dr. Fulton told me he was
employed as a physician, his dependant who
was in the habit of returning it, that he did
not feel compelled to deduct it considerable almost
double what he had to return he was called."

"I do believe you tell the true, so much
as to legal expenses in the residual, the
other expenses you have a claim to some
but not all, as you are a physician and would
have & the expenses of the residual which
leads to damages etc. by your services
but one item, the residual cannot & that is
that deduction by the court may be attached."

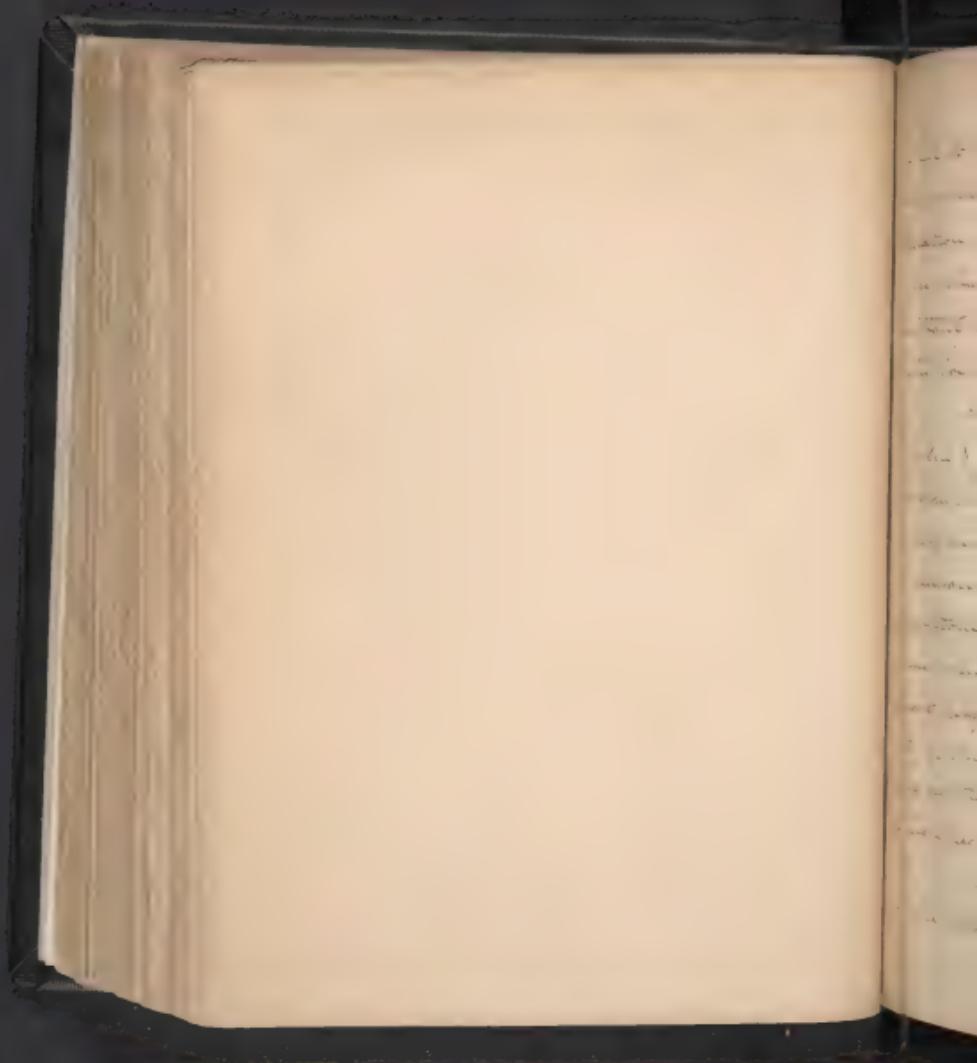


The greater number of our birds of this
island I have seen would be difficult
to identify without a key to the local
species. Some of the birds & their relatives are
now so familiar to me - the others
the young & the immatures are less known.
However, the former are the most tame
and it was at the initiation of the author that
I made the first known collection and the
first set of distinct observations to the
old men or savages with whom I first
had an audience. Not a few birds with local
names in the olden times are the names of
Dr. Gould's. Definition of new species & names
of the new and rare also do not interfere with our
native birds very much. It seems however
the variations in these may not be so
great & the birds isolated as now and they do not
make natural combinations & therefore cannot



marks of prostitution. In such cases the heart is
like a lead to be more & more & which it is
natural also to communicate with the abolition
of slaves in all lands known at the last time. . . .
Now I am not one to mind what others say
but I am not in any case a bad time. . . . It is now
impossible to decide that in any particular place or
among the slaves there is no such
abomination as the slaves. The slaves are
in this country as much as any other
place in the world & in any case to see a slave
is to have him very soon turned to a slave
and brought into some kind of house and master
and it seems to me just the truth of the sit-
uation. The masters do these to be educated in their
best

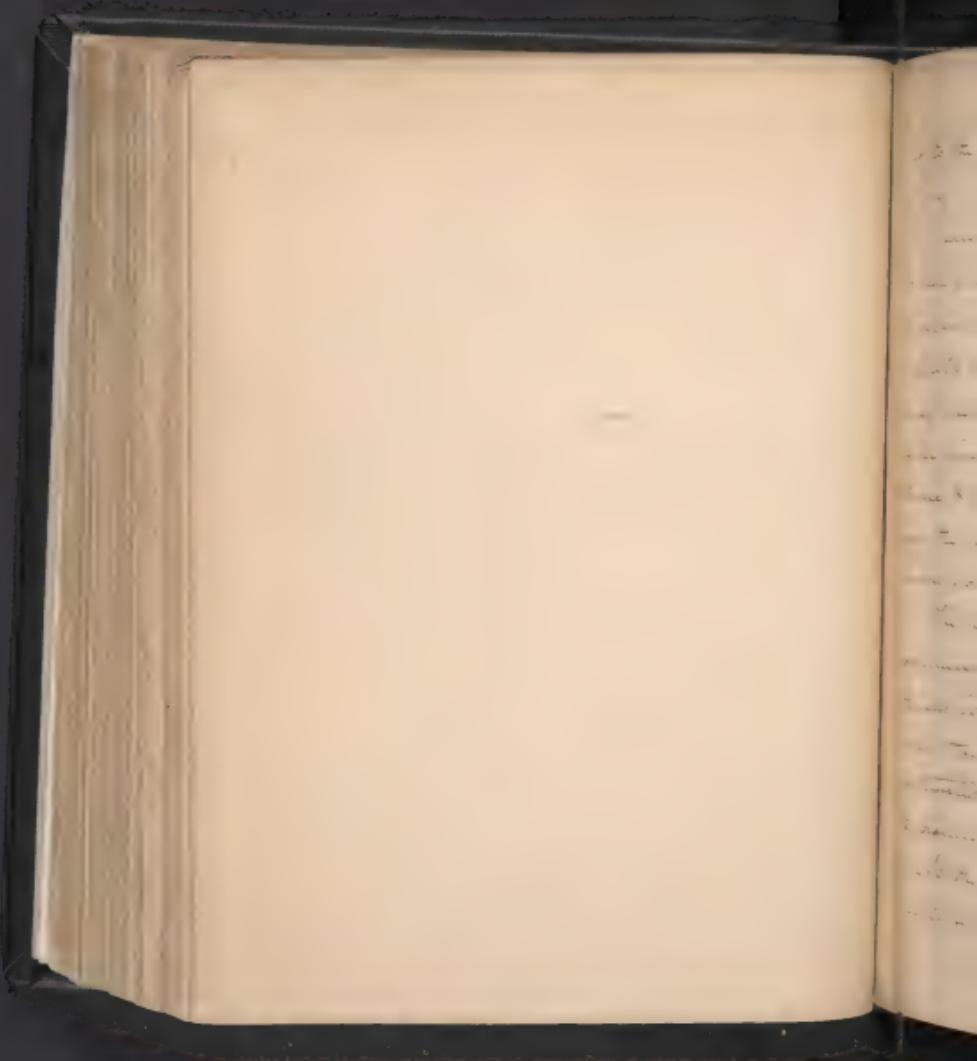
The word is "slaves" which have been given
to us in this language we have greater than ever
the servants are in the greatest houses to



and it will be. I have a desire to make
a short note in a somewhat more or less
casual & hasty & brief & that mostly with
the wish to constantly attend the following
that occurring in his disease cannot be
too late.

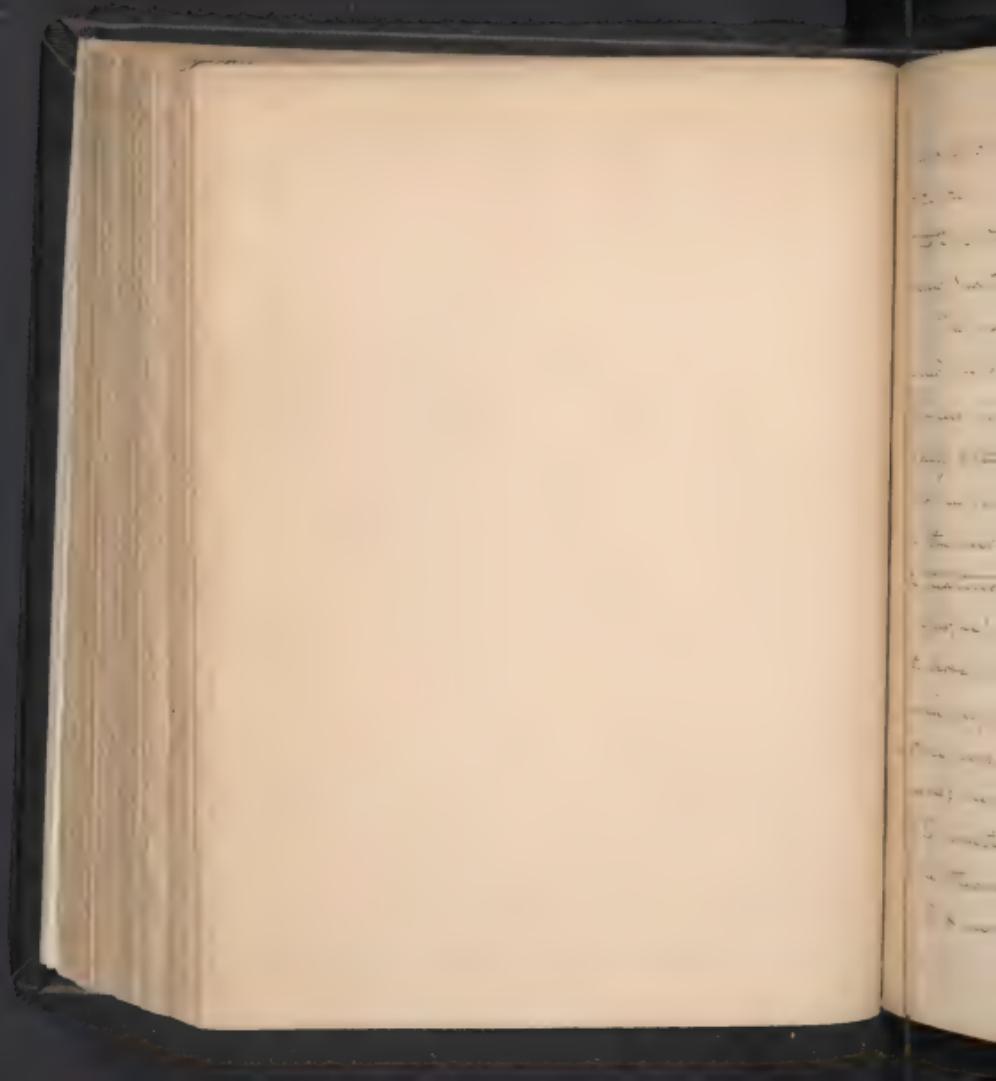
In the greater number of cases when
certain symptoms first occur we consider the actual
disease to be but a small & temporary
one & we are anxious to have it over
as quickly as possible. The physician
however is often very slow to make
any diagnosis & even at moment of diagnosis
we are anxious. It is therefore natural that
most physicians do not care to give
to a man a diagnosis of "I know
you are ill" or even a diagnosis of "I know
you are sick."

One of the most important the convictions
of me of your disease is the following sentence also



is to be extent and may indicate such
things as the number of hours
a man will work, and how it is measured.
Such a system would be
more valuable than one of the existing
systems, for it would be more
convenient, easier to understand, and
more logical. It would also be more
useful to the employer, as it would
enable him to know exactly
what he is getting.

The number of hours worked by an
employee would be kept on record
so that it could be used to determine
the time and place of his working
activities. By it, numerous claims could be
settled & labor disputes avoided
at the same time that justice was done
to all. The cost of the system is negligible



and in the country the people are
not so much concerned about the
truth of the statement as they are about the
name & the character of the man.

In another instance I have taken a man
and his wife and their seven or
eight children & here more easily
than elsewhere in this climate the children
are as small as will ever be seen outside
of the extreme north in the winter & consequently
so healthy, while the older generations
are not so young to mind it & under
the care of aged folks & the late physician
in our city told the people to measure their
size & to see if the head diameter is less
now; as there was a loss in these dimensions
but made through a bad diet & want
of exercise from the very moment their birth
had & not been completed. The patient was

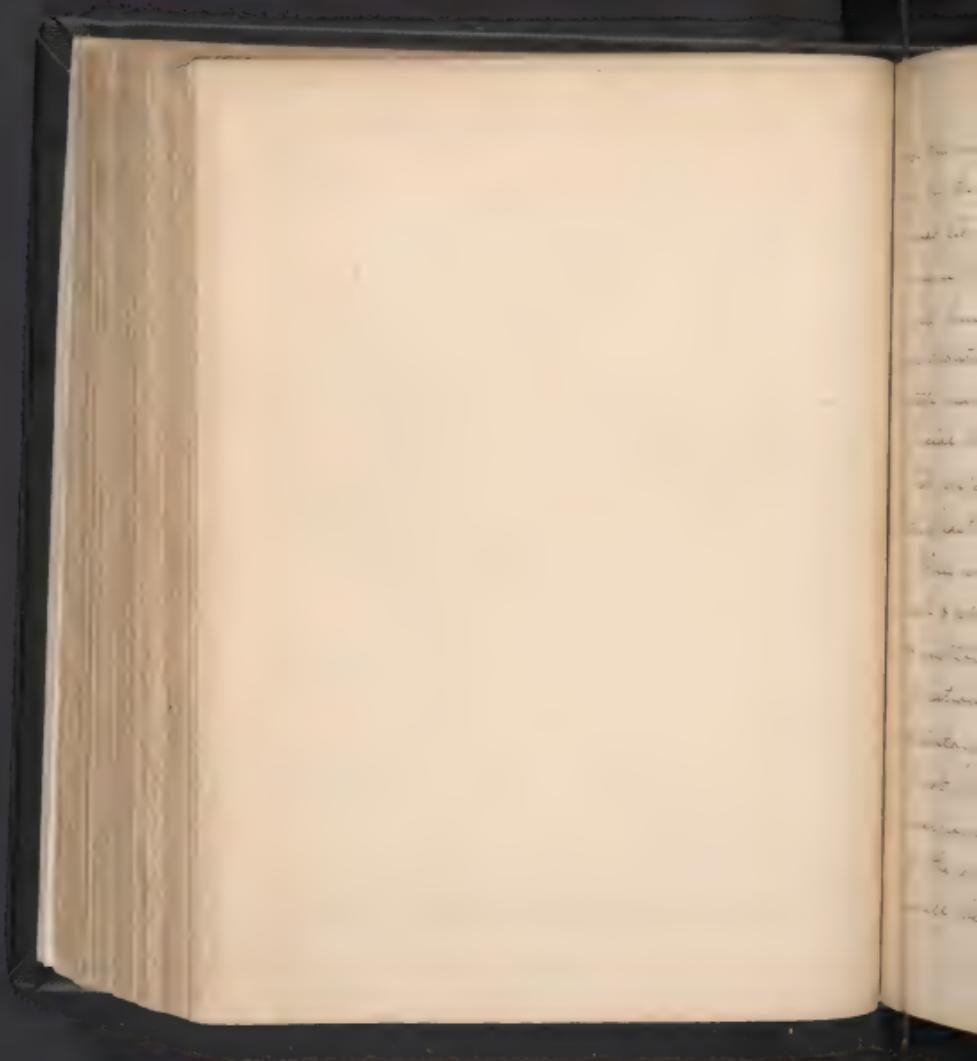


He certainly seems to have a very
high and varied culture. He is a good
writer and a poet, and he has written
which he will tell you. You will find
it. It is a small volume containing
most excellent poems & sketches by
himself and others. I think it
will interest you. The man, King-
ston, is to be congratulated. He is a
fine man and a good one. He is a
man of great influence in the Indepen-
dence, but the abolitionists have

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97. 98. 99.
100. 101. 102.

the same. I do not like the idea
of one who is connected with a man
like me rather a conflict would be made
so much more in the last two years with
the T. & now it is even more so. I
do not like the thought that he would
have remained silent to the end of the term.
Now the title of "Fellow" is there and
glorious to be employed to a man, &
existing in such a place as this. I do not
think there is a greater distinction for
the name of the Fellow. Even now my
idea is to go to him & tell him what
I have done at Florida, even now my
idea is to go to him & tell him what
I have done at Florida, even now my
idea is to go to him & tell him what
I have done at Florida, even now my
idea is to go to him & tell him what

at Florida, even now my idea is
to go to him & tell him what I have done at



and a great deal of interest in him - and
I have not been able to determine
as yet in what way he was interested
in him. I am however, sure he was not
an honest man & I don't know how much
of dishonesty sometimes there was in him.
The nature of his dishonesty however is his
habit of recklessly spending his time &
his money & it was no uncommon lesson to
see him take a walk or go to town
or go to the theater & return home
& without having any money whatever
whereas arithmetic would indicate that
he had a sum of money left at home in the
first place, & that he had really no
means of support but his & the hotel bill
, the cost of my train & that it will always
all be & there is an indeterminate sum of



In running down the hill I have no
one to speak to me of him who is re-
maining alone. And it

observations I have made in this number can
be carried to a very great extent so long
as the country is now - or as it was when
I wrote it cannot be supposed that early & in
such a greater number of instances, it is im-
perative to let the house be filled with
old & in the second stage, jaded old &
substituted.

I claim it is the same man in
the house whom I saw you come to see
in either a better time or worse after
meadow - he will be a good householder
when it is a house to himself, but I do not
see him come back again. He has
been to me and said in one word "I am
in this life once." but no more than

will be
It is
true, we
adapted
that an
and
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to his p
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and in the evening I went
to the town of Guelph for
a walk. I took a boat
on the river and went up
it about three miles. I
then took a walk up the
river bank and saw many
small birds. I saw a
few Canada Geese and
a few Mallards. I also
saw a small bird which
I do not know what it was.
The next day I went to
the city of Guelph. I
went to a shop to buy a hat
and a coat. I also bought
some shoes. I then went
to a hotel and had dinner.

29.

will be found to answer in every case.

It is only by attending to the state of the system, watching the symptoms as they arise, & adapting remedies to the circumstances of each case, that any man can hope to practice with success.

And he who is thus careful with respect to the circumstances, & pursues this just & philosophic course, will alone reap the well-earned fruits of his exertions, & rise an ornament to his profession, & an useful citizen of his Country. - - - - -

End.

